

Luke 9:7-9

¹ Then Jesus called the Twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and power to cure diseases. ² And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ “Take nothing for the journey,” He told them, “no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no second tunic. ⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that area. ⁵ If anyone does not welcome you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave that town, as a testimony against them.” ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, preaching the gospel and healing people everywhere.

⁷ When Herod the Tetrarch heard about all that was happening, he was perplexed. For some were saying that John had risen from the dead, ⁸ others that Elijah had appeared, and still others that a prophet of old had arisen. ⁹ “I beheaded John,” Herod said, “but who is this man I hear such things about?” And he kept trying to see Jesus.

¹⁰ Then the apostles returned and reported to Jesus all that they had done. Taking them away privately, He withdrew to a town called Bethsaida. ¹¹ But the crowds found out and followed Him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and He healed those who needed healing.

Berean Study Bible

1 – evangelistic message

It’s time to splash out into deep water. Luke 9:7-9

It’s time to stop depending on your emotions. 7a

Your problem is you hear, but don’t change. “heard about”

Your problem is you know, but don’t act. “perplexed”

It’s time to stop depending on other people. 7b-8

Your problem is fear because you prioritise opinions of others. “some were saying”

Your problem is ignorance because you fail to prioritise answers. (no explanations)

It’s time to stop getting and start giving. 9

Your problem is death pervades you. You need life! “I beheaded...”

Your problem is you use only your head. You also need your heart. “trying to see”

2

Who is this non-ordinary person? Luke 9:7-9

Jesus is a man, but not an ordinary man. 7

Unlike anyone else, Jesus existed before He was born.

Unlike anyone else, Jesus is fully human and also fully God.

Jesus is a man, but not like other men. 7-8

Unlike anyone else, Jesus is Creator, and therefore Ruler.
Unlike anyone else, Jesus is perfect, and therefore Saviour.

Jesus is a man, but not for our amusement. 9

Unlike anyone else, Jesus is the soul Sin-bearer and heart-mender.
Unlike anyone else, Jesus is the sole Arbiter and Judge.

'Five' minute video. *That's My King*, by Shadrach Meshach Lockridge (1913-2000).

The following videos increase in length, and decrease in editing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzqTFNfeDnE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9K80pozOfrU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PQ-tfnAguE>

3

Getting the answers without cheating. Luke 9:7-9

The unsaved do not know spiritual truth. 7-8

Spiritual truth generates confusion. 7 "perplexed"

Spiritual truth generates opinion. 7-8 "some say..."

Some believe in reincarnation. 7 "...risen from the dead"

Some believe in prophecy. 8a "Elijah had appeared"

Some believe in tradition. 8b "a prophet of old"

Some believe in a new voice. 8c "had arisen"

The unsaved need to know spiritual truth. 9

Spiritual truth is always factual. 9a "I beheaded John"

Spiritual truth is always stimulating. 9b "who is this"

Spiritual truth is always worthwhile. 9c "kept trying to see Jesus"

4

Sound reaches your ear, but where does it go next? Luke 9:7-9

The world will hear the Gospel. 7a "heard about". Romans 10:14 "how will they hear..."

The world will not hear until we speak.

The world will hear but will not listen.

The world will not understand the Gospel. 7b-8. 1 Corinthians 2:14 "spiritually discerned"

The Gospel does not make sense. "perplexed"

The Gospel will be misinterpreted. "some say..."

The world will get wrong information. 7c-9a

The world has information, but not knowledge. 7c-8 "others say..."

The world has personal facts, but no insight. 9a "I (sinned)..."

The world still needs answers. 9. Philippians 3:10 "I want to know Christ..."

The world needs to know Jesus is. "who is this Man?"
The world needs to know what Jesus wants. cp. Luke 23:8

5

Where will your journey through the world take you? Luke 9:7-9

The world does not understand spiritual things. 7a "perplexed"

Understanding requires starting with facts.

Understanding requires gaining knowledge.

The world is not correct about spiritual things. 7b-8 "some said... others..."

Being correct requires starting with facts.

Being correct requires gaining understanding.

The world does not want spiritual answers. 9 "not John... who...?"

Spiritual answers require starting with facts.

Spiritual answers require gaining maturity.

6

I want to live a life that creates positives. Luke 9:7-9

I want to live a life that creates interest 9:7a "Herod the tetrarch heard"

Word gets out. No secrets.

What are they hearing about me? Is it an attractive quality of life that I present?

Talk about your life, the good parts and the bad parts, that shows my progress.

I want to live a life that creates truth and clarity 9:7b-8 "some said... others said..."

Everyone has an opinion. No clarity.

I need to know Truth. I need to speak confidently about my opinion.

I want to live a life that creates positive opportunities 9:9a "I beheaded John. Who is this?"

What advantage can I offer these people?

Attitude is based on experience. No certainty.

John gave truth and clarity and law.

I want to live a life that creates hope 9:9b "tried to see him"

Anticipated experience / No resolution 9:9b

7 – Leaders or business devotion

Managing upward / When your upline is an underperformer. Luke 9:7-9

More than half the people who have label 'Manager' lack skills, training, talent or temperament to lead a team. How do I go from survive to thrive?

Provide better information than the crowd 9:7a "Herod heard about all that was going on"
Send info up, ask for info down.
"heard about" but did not understand

Provide better analysis than the crowd 9:7b-8 "perplexed, because some were saying"
Everyone has an opinion. No clarity.
Speak confidently about your unique viewpoint.
Don't expect recognition or acknowledgement. Self-promote.

Provide better alternatives than the crowd 9:9a "I beheaded John. Who is..."
What advantage can I offer this moron?
John gave truth and clarity and law.
Answer the dumb questions.
Expect negative, deceptive or punitive approaches to problems, eg. "beheaded"

Provide better hope than the crowd 9:9b "tried to see him"
Anticipated experience / No resolution 9:9b

Music and songs

Songs about ignorance and gaining knowledge

Be still and know. 114
I am not skilled to understand. C 209
I cannot tell why He whom angels worship. H 185
I know not why... I know whom I have believed. H 651
Jesus is the answer. Ot 82
Little by little, one step at a time. Keister
More, more about Jesus. H 667
Most of the time I'm still not understanding. Kauflin & Nalle
My eyes have been enlightened. SiS 352
Open my eyes that I may see. H 680
Open our eyes Lord. SiS 390
Open the eyes of my heart. Ot 23
Teach me Thy way. C 262, H 536
The chimes of time... It is no secret.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet. Ot 63
What the Lord has done in me. Ot 65
Who is He in yonder stall... H 137

Songs about yielding to Jesus

All to Jesus I surrender. C 398
And can it be that I should gain. H 377
Have you any room for Jesus. CWH 108
Have you been to Jesus... Are you washed in the blood? H 640
I'm not ashamed to own my Lord... At the cross. H 732
I have decided to follow Jesus. H 742
I surrender all. H 378

Is your burden heavy... Reach out to Jesus. CWH 2
Just as I am. H 392
Out on a limb. SWBrown
Reign in me. P&W 446
Take my life and let it be. H 511
Thou didst leave... There is room in my heart. H 140
Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus. 701
Trust and obey. 711
Years I spent in vanity and pride... At Calvary. H 716
You rescued me. Ot 45

Songs about Jesus; His nature; His actions

A wonderful Saviour... He hideth my soul. H 625
Above all. TS 611
All hail King Jesus. SiS 219
Amazing love... You are my King. Ot 8
And God cried. Ot 88
Awesome God. Ot 50
Be exalted O God. SiS 396
Behold the Lamb of God. Ot 11
Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty. 407
Celebrate Jesus. Ot 16
Chain-breaker. Ot 72
Come let us sing for joy to the Lord.
Consider Christ. Ot 2
El Shaddai. Ot 61
Emmanuel (His name is called). 205 / SiS 238
Even the darkness is light to Him (Michael Card)
Everybody ought to know, HCJ 43
God forgave my sin... Freely freely. SiS 41 / MP 181
God of wonders. Ot 7
Great in power.
Highest place. Ot 20
How deep the Father's love for us. TS 185
How great is our God. 1020
How great Thou art. H 38
How high and how wide. Ot 52
How lovely on the mountains... Our God reigns. SiS 201
How majestic is Your Name. 437
I can't imagine. 964
In the stars... He's everything to me. Ot 22
Jesus name above all names. SiS 226
Jesus what a beautiful name. 777
More precious than silver. 430
My Lord, what love is this... Amazing love. 160
Salvation belongs to our God. 620
Sing your praise to the Lord.

Stand and bless the Lord (Tom Fettke). Ot 91
The power and the glory of Your Name. Ot 24
This is my Father's world. H 615
Steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. 414
You are worthy. 213
You can touch Him (Ralph Carmichael)

Thought starters for personal reflection or group study

1. What were the conflicting reports about Jesus (v7-8), and why might anyone believe them?
 2. When did you first hear about Jesus, and how accurate was that information you heard?
 3. Jesus made everything in the universe. Which bits do you most like?
 4. The universe declares the glory of God (Ps.19:1). What aspects of God's nature do you see in the created realm?
 5. What is the Gospel; and what do I do about it? Luke 4:18-19. Acts 5:42. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8. 2 Timothy 1:10. Mark 1:14-15. 1 Cor.9:16
 6. Why is just confessing our sins, not enough to save us? Why is just asking Jesus into our heart not enough to save us?
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Complementary text, Luke 23:4-12

⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, "I find no basis for a charge against this man." ⁵ But they kept insisting, "He stirs up the people all over Judea with His teaching. He began in Galilee and has come all the way here." ⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And learning that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who himself was in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased. He had wanted to see Him for a long time, because he had heard about Him and was hoping to see Him perform a miracle. ⁹ Herod questioned Jesus at great length, but He gave no answer. ¹⁰ Meanwhile, the chief priests and scribes stood there, vehemently accusing Him. ¹¹ And even Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked Him. Dressing Him in a fine robe, they sent Him back to Pilate. ¹² That day Herod and Pilate became friends; before this time they had been enemies.

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